

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2211

Introduced by Assembly Member Fuentes

February 18, 2010

An act to amend Section 51760 of, and to add Section 51760.1 to, the Education Code, relating to work-based learning, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2211, as amended, Fuentes. Work-based learning.

Existing law authorizes school districts that maintain high schools to establish work experience programs for the purpose of providing pupils with instruction in skills, attitudes, and understandings necessary for success in employment.

This bill would state the findings of the Legislature regarding work-based learning, as defined. This bill would authorize school districts that maintain high schools to establish work-based learning programs, and to purchase liability insurance for pupils enrolled in programs of study involving work-based learning, off school grounds. The bill would authorize partnership academies, regional occupational programs, and other educational programs to deliver work-based learning opportunities for pupils that may include work experience education, community classrooms, cooperative career technical education programs, and job shadowing experience, as specified. The bill would require the ~~State Board of Education, pursuant to recommendations made by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to adopt model standards in work-based learning~~ *Superintendent, in conjunction with specified education stakeholders, to develop principles*

and guidelines for the establishment of work-based learning programs. The bill would encourage school districts to submit specified information relating to ~~work-based~~ *work-based* learning to the department, and would encourage the department to post this information on its Internet Web site.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (a) Public secondary education prepares pupils for success after
- 4 high school, including further education and training without
- 5 remediation, productive employment with opportunities for
- 6 advancement, and civic participation.
- 7 (b) Well-designed education programs intentionally combine
- 8 rigorous college preparatory education with demanding career
- 9 technical education, both of which are supported by high-quality
- 10 work-based learning and necessary support services that promote
- 11 success.
- 12 (c) Work-based learning is an essential component of any
- 13 comprehensive educational program of study. It brings meaning
- 14 and relevance to the educational program.
- 15 (d) Work-based learning offers opportunities to learn through
- 16 real-world experience. Pupils gain access to job shadowing,
- 17 mentorships, intensive internships, real or virtual apprenticeships,
- 18 and school-based enterprises. These experiences complement
- 19 classroom instruction and help sharpen the desire of pupils to
- 20 increase knowledge and skills that are relevant to their
- 21 postsecondary and career interests.
- 22 (e) Work-based learning is currently provided to pupils through
- 23 existing programs, including, but not limited to, work experience,
- 24 cooperative vocational education, regional occupational programs,
- 25 and community classrooms.
- 26 (f) High-quality work-based learning includes systematic
- 27 attention to the development of 21st century skills, such as

1 communication, problem solving, teamwork, project planning, and
2 critical thinking.

3 (g) Furthermore, work-based learning allows pupils to work
4 side by side with adult professionals who help instill professional
5 behavior, real-world expectations, a strong work ethic, the need
6 for ongoing learning, and a desire to achieve.

7 (h) High-quality work-based learning experiences share the
8 following characteristics:

9 (1) Prioritization of learning over work production.

10 (2) Exposure to a wide range of career areas and worksites in
11 order to help youth make informed choices about education,
12 training options, and career pursuits.

13 (3) Thoughtful placement of pupils into opportunities that are
14 evaluated for their safety, qualified supervision, and learning
15 opportunities.

16 (4) Appropriate sequencing of experiences based upon the
17 pupil's age and maturity, ranging from site visits and tours, job
18 shadowing, unpaid and paid internships, and paid work experience.

19 (5) Explicit aim to supplement, or systematically reinforce,
20 classroom instruction in technical courses, academic courses, or
21 both.

22 (6) A trained workplace mentor who works in collaboration
23 with a classroom teacher to structure the learning at the worksite.

24 (7) Built-in regular assessment and feedback.

25 (8) Involvement of youth in choosing and structuring the
26 experience.

27 (9) Clear and measurable learning outcomes.

28 (i) Work-based learning may take many forms, including, but
29 not limited to, job shadowing, internships, work experience,
30 community classrooms, real or virtual apprenticeships, and
31 school-based enterprises.

32 SEC. 2. Section 51760 of the Education Code is amended to
33 read:

34 51760. The governing board of a district maintaining a high
35 school may do all of the following:

36 (a) Provide for the instruction of pupils in the skills, attitudes,
37 and understandings necessary to succeed in employment by means
38 of courses of work-based learning or work experience education
39 as provided in this article.

1 (b) Provide for guidance and supervision procedures designed
2 to ensure maximum educational benefit to pupils from placement
3 in suitable work-based learning or work experience education
4 courses.

5 (c) Provide for arranging, approving, coordinating, and awarding
6 credit for work-based learning or work experience education
7 courses, and for those purposes employ instructors, coordinators,
8 and other necessary personnel.

9 (d) Provide for the district to purchase liability insurance for
10 pupils enrolled in programs of study involving work experience,
11 which may include work-based learning, or vocational education
12 at locations off school grounds approved by the governing board,
13 or require pupils to purchase insurance and to pass on all or a
14 portion of the costs, at the discretion of the governing board, to
15 the district.

16 SEC. 3. Section 51760.1 is added to the Education Code, to
17 read:

18 51760.1. (a) Work-based learning opportunities for pupils may
19 be delivered by partnership academies conducted pursuant to
20 Article 5 (commencing with Section 54690) of Chapter 9 of Part
21 29, regional occupational programs, as defined in Section 52303,
22 and other educational programs, and may include, but are not
23 limited to, work experience education, as defined in Section 51764,
24 community classrooms, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section
25 52372.1, cooperative career technical education programs, as
26 defined in subdivision (b) of Section 52372.1, and job shadowing
27 experience, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 51769.

28 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, school districts opting to
29 offer work-based learning opportunities to pupils shall ensure that,
30 when applicable, pupils are afforded the same statutory and
31 regulatory safeguards as pupils in work experience programs.

32 (c) For purposes of this section, “work-based learning” means
33 an educational approach or instructional methodology that uses
34 the workplace or real work to provide pupils with the knowledge
35 and skills that will help them connect school experiences to real-life
36 work activities and future career opportunities. When feasible,
37 work-based learning should be an integral part of a more
38 comprehensive pathway program that integrates challenging
39 academic courses and demanding career technical education.

(d) High-quality work-based learning may include, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- (1) Emphasis on learning in the workplace.
- (2) Exposure to a wide range of career areas and worksites in order to help youth make informed choices about education, training options, and career pursuits.
- (3) Thoughtful placement of pupils into opportunities that are evaluated for their safety, qualified supervision, and learning opportunities.
- (4) Appropriate sequencing of experiences based upon the pupil's age and maturity, ranging from site visits and tours, job shadowing, unpaid and paid internships, and paid work experience.
- (5) Explicit aim to supplement, or systematically reinforce, classroom instruction in technical courses, academic courses, or both.
- (6) Systematic attention to the development of 21st century skills, such as communication, problem solving, teamwork, project planning, and critical thinking.
- (7) A trained mentor who structures the learning at the worksite.
- (8) Coordination between the classroom teacher and the workplace mentor or supervisor.
- (9) Built-in regular assessment and feedback.
- (10) Involvement of youth in choosing and structuring the experience.
- (11) Clear and measurable learning outcomes.

~~(e) The state board shall develop model content standards, pursuant to recommendations made by the Superintendent, for work-based learning. These standards shall be aligned with the~~

(e) The Superintendent, in conjunction with teachers, chamber organizations, industry representatives, research centers, parents, school administrators, representatives of regional occupational centers and programs, and others deemed appropriate by the Superintendent, shall develop principles and guidelines for the establishment of work-based learning programs. In developing these principles and guidelines for work-based learning, the Superintendent shall consider existing guidelines or regulations relative to the programs described in subdivision (a) and the most current academic and career technical education standards adopted by the state board. For purposes of completing these standards principles and guidelines the Superintendent and state board may

1 use existing federal and state funds. If federal or state funds are
2 not available or sufficient, the Superintendent and state board may
3 apply for and accept grants and receive donations, or other financial
4 support from public or private sources for purposes of this
5 subdivision.

6 (f) ~~School~~ *In order to maximize existing and proposed public*
7 *transportation routes to ensure that high school pupils have greater*
8 *access to work-based learning sites, school districts offering*
9 *work-based learning are encouraged to provide information to*
10 *local transportation agencies about the location of pupil work-based*
11 *learning worksites. existing schools offering work-based learning*
12 *opportunities and participating industry worksites.*

13 (g) School districts are encouraged to work with local workforce
14 investment board youth councils ~~to facilitate~~ *and workforce*
15 *investment boards to maximize the use of available resources for*
16 *youth employment opportunities by coordinating work-based*
17 *learning opportunities and facilitating work-based learning*
18 *regional planning.*

19 (h) School districts offering work-based learning are encouraged
20 to submit to the department work-based learning best practices
21 and specific examples of work-based learning offered by the
22 district. The department is encouraged to post this information on
23 its Internet Web site for the purpose of informing school districts
24 about work-based learning.

25 SEC. 4. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
26 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within
27 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into
28 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

29 Because of current economic conditions and lack of education
30 funding, public and private partnerships are necessary for pupils
31 to learn relevant skills inside and outside the classroom and because
32 work-based learning has proven to engage pupils very effectively
33 in preparation for higher education and the workplace, it is
34 necessary that this act take effect immediately.